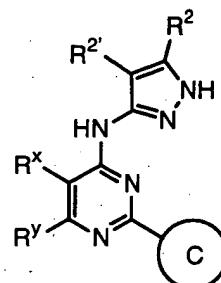


Abstract

This invention describes novel pyrazole compounds of formula II:



II

wherein Ring C is selected from a phenyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl, pyrazinyl, or 1,2,4-triazinyl ring, and R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>2'</sup>, R<sup>x</sup>, and R<sup>y</sup> are as described in the specification. Ring C has an ortho substituent and is optionally substituted in the non-ortho positions. R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>2'</sup> are optionally taken together with their intervening atoms to form a fused ring system, such as an indazole ring; and R<sup>x</sup> and R<sup>y</sup> are optionally taken together with their intervening atoms to form a fused ring system, such as a quinazoline ring. The compounds are useful as protein kinase inhibitors, especially as inhibitors of GSK-3, for treating diseases such as diabetes and Alzheimer's disease.